



Translation

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P801386/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/008815	International filing date (day/month/year) 08 August 2003 (08.08.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 August 2002 (27.08.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B62D 65/04		
Applicant DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>5</u> sheets.</p>	
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 12 December 2003 (12.12.2003)	Date of completion of this report 28 December 2004 (28.12.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/008815

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
 pages _____ 3-6 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____ 1, 2, 2a _____, filed with the letter of _____ 07 December 2004 (07.12.2004)
- ☒ the claims:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____ 1-6 _____, filed with the letter of _____ 07 December 2004 (07.12.2004)
- ☒ the drawings:
 pages _____ 1/4-4/4 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 03/08815

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 6	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 6	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 6	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

This report makes reference to the following document:
D1: DE3720344A

D1 is regarded as the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. D1 discloses (the references in parentheses are to D1):

a vehicle body having all the features in claim 1, i.e. a motor vehicle body having a support structure made up of large-size sub-modules (1, 10', 20), wherein a roof module (10') with front and rear roof pillars (14, 15) is placed on a base module (1) approximately at the level of the platform gate edge of the vehicle body; the front and rear roof pillars (14, 15) of the roof module (10') are connected to each other via respective crossmembers (36, 8'); and the rear roof pillars (15) are connected to each other via a rear-window shelf supporting plate (7') that is reinforced by the associated crossmember (8') (see roof module 10' in figure 1).

Thus the subject matter of claim 1 differs from this known vehicle body in that the base module comprises a support system extending transversely to the vehicle, said support

system being closed by the supporting plate of the roof module to form a support frame and having members extending vertically and connected to each other via a crossmember extending at the level of the vehicle floor.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

Thus the problem to be solved by the present invention can be regarded as that of devising a mounting system of the aforementioned type in which the support structure is especially rigid in the region in which the rear axle is connected and at the point at which chassis forces from the rear axle act on the structure.

The concept of providing a vertical support frame in the region of the rear axle is not obvious from D1 or the remaining available prior art. The solution to the aforementioned problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application therefore involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

Claims 2 to 6 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.